

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (original) A conductive plastic touch switch, the touch switch comprising:
a plastic substrate having a first side surface including at least two channels formed within said first side surface and a second side surface including a manual activation region opposite of said at least two channels;
at least two conductive traces formed within said at least two channels respectively; and
a printed circuit board electrically attached to said at least two conductive plastic traces;
wherein said plastic substrate is formed during a first mold process and said at least two conductive plastic traces are in-molded during a second mold process.

2. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 wherein said at least two conductive traces are plastic conductive traces formed during said second mold process.

3. (original) The touch switch of claim 2 wherein said at least two conductive plastic traces are arranged in a pattern at a predetermined distance apart, said at least two conductive plastic traces generating an electric field with said manual activation region when a predetermined voltage is applied to said at least two conductive traces.

4. (original) The touch switch of claim 3 wherein capacitances generated by said two conductive plastic traces varies in response to an object selectably disposed within said manual activation region.

5. (original) The touch switch of claim 4 wherein at least two conductive plastic traces are plated with a conductive modifier for increasing said conductivity of said at least two conductive plastic traces.

6. (original) The touch switch of claim 5 wherein said conductive modifier is plated on said two conductive plastic traces in an electroplating process.

7. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 further comprising a zebra connector for electrically connecting said printed circuit board to said at least two conductive traces.

8. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 further comprising a third channel formed within said first side surface, wherein a ground trace is molded within said third channel.

9. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 wherein said interior trim panel comprises an instrument panel.

10. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 wherein said interior trim panel comprises a bezel.

11. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 wherein said at least two conductive traces are insert molded during said second mold process.

12. (original) The touch switch of claim 1 wherein said at least two conductive traces are formed on different planes.

13. (canceled)

14. (original) A conductive plastic touch switch formed in an interior trim panel of a vehicle, the touch switch comprising:

a plastic substrate forming a portion of an interior trim panel of a vehicle, a first side surface including at least two channels formed within said first side surface and a second side surface including a manual activation region opposite said at least two channels;

at least two conductive plastic traces, said conductive plastic traces formed within said at least two channels; and

a printed circuit board electrically attached to said at least two conductive traces;

wherein said plastic substrate is formed during a first mold process and said at least two conductive plastic traces are in-molded during a second mold process.

15-20. (canceled)